

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on September 23, 2004, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 3-5, 9, 12, 15-16, 19, and 22 are amended, claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 18, 20, and 21 are cancelled, and no new claims are added; as a result, claims 3-7, 9, 12, 15-17, 19, and 22 are now pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-2, 8, 10-11, 13-14, 18 and 20-21 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Aiello et al (WO 01/99305 A2).

Claims 3-7, 9, 12, 15-17, 19 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claims 3-5, 9, 12, 15-16, 19, and 22 to incorporate the limitations of the claims from which these claims previously depended, bringing them into condition for allowance. Applicant notes that claims 3-7, 9, 12, 15-17, 19 and 22, which were previously indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form are now so written or are dependent from claims indicated to be allowable, and so are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 18, 20, and 21 are cancelled, such that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and allowance of the claims as amended is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 349-9581 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

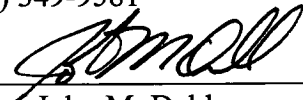
Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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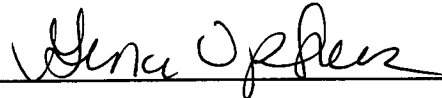
Date Jan 24 '05

By 
John M. Dahl
Reg. No. 44,639

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 24 day of January, 2005.

Cina M. Uphus

Name



Signature